

Message Text

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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5383

EXDIS

DEPT PASS TO SECRETARY - IMMEDIATE

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR LE UNSC XF
SUBJ: DAYAN COMMENTS ON LEBANON

1. DURING LATE APRIL 20 MEETING DAYAN BRIEFLY COMMENTED ON HIS TALKS WITH WALDHEIM. HE EXPRESSED COMPLETE SATISFACTION WITH WALDHEIM'S STATEMENT OF UNIFIL'S ORDER AND OBJECTIVES, ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT FULLY CONVINCED THEY COULD BE CARRIED OUT. IN ADDITION, DAYAN HAD A POSITIVE REACTION TO THE THREE MAIN POINTS MADE BY WALDHEIM: (A) UNIFIL'S MANDATE INCLUDES PREVENTION, BY FORCE IF NECESSARY, OF RETURN OF THE PLO TO SOUTHERN LEBANON; (B) THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THE CAIRO ACCORD NULL AND VOID; AND (C) THE 1949 ISRAEL-LEBANON ARMISTICE AGREEMENT REMAINS IN FORCE.

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2. DAYAN MADE A SPECIAL POINT OF EXPRESSING HIS SATISFACTION WITH THE GOL'S REJECTION OF THE CAIRO ACCORD, WHICH IN ANY CASE WAS NOT VALID BECAUSE IT WAS IN CONTRADICTION TO THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. HE NOTED IN PASSING THAT THIS WAS ALSO THE CASE REGARDING THE SHTAURA AGREEMENT. DAYAN THEN EXPRESSED HIS WILLINGNESS TO PUT THE TECHNICAL ASPECT OF THE ARMISTICE REGIME TO WORK AND

RESUME THE MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION. HE SAW THE MAC AS A USEFUL FORUM IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS COULD WORK OUT DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SOUTH.

3. I THEN MENTIONED BOUTROS' COMMENT TO PARKER THAT THE LEBANESE WOULD BE WILLING TO MEET ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES UNDER ILMAC AEGIS. HOWEVER, I STRESSED THAT AT THIS POINT THE LEBANESE WOULD NOT WANT TO DISCUSS BROAD POLITICAL QUESTIONS IN THIS FORUM, AND THAT I WAS SURE IT COULD NOT BE AT THE SENIOR LEVELS LIKE GENERAL KHOURY AT THIS DELICATE POINT IN THE LEBANESE INTERNAL DRAMA. DAYAN AGREED, AND SAID THAT ILMAC SHOULD HANDLE "MORE TECHNICAL MATTERS," BUT THAT THE GOI WOULD BE READY TO MEET WITH THE GOL AT HIGHER LEVELS WHENEVER IT WERE POSSIBLE.

4. ON THE SUBJECT OF THE LEBANESE-ISRAELI ARMISTICE AGREEMENT, THIS IS NOW CLEARLY ONE OF THE MAJOR THEMES HERE--SEEN AS A LEGAL BASIS FOR UNDERGIRDING UNIFIL. DAYAN ADMITTED THAT HIS OWN GOVERNMENT HAD UNWISELY ANNOUNCED IN 1967 THAT IT WAS NO LONGER IN EFFECT; HOWEVER, SINCE THE UN AND THE GOL SEEM TO REGARD IT AS STILL LEGALLY IN FORCE, HE WOULD LIKE TO DO SO AS WELL. (HE SAID HE WILL HAVE "A LITTLE WORK TO DO WITH MY OWN GOVERNMENT, BUT I CAN DO IT.")
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5. COMMENT: THE POINT OF THIS IS THAT DAYAN NOW SEES THE LANGUAGE OF THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT (ARTICLE 1, PARA TWO AND ARTICLE III, PARA TWO AND PARA THREE) AS PROVIDING A STRONG LEGAL BASIS FOR UNIFIL'S CARRYING OUT ITS MANDATE IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE FASHIONM WE WILL BE HEARING MORE ON THIS SUBJECT, NO DOUBT. LEWIS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED TO THE SECRETARY.

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